

**Economic Development Advisory Committee**  
**THURSDAY**  
**January 14, 2010**  
**7:00 PM**

City Council Chambers  
16 Colomba Road DeBary, Florida 32713

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Vihlen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Sid Vihlen, Jr., Dawn Fitzpatrick, Nathan Enright, John Atkinson, Chris Yacenda

Absent: Vice Chair Val Emerson, Jim Chestnutt, Kristi Knight (alternate)

Also present: Interim City Manager Kassandra Esposito-Blissett

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- Meeting of December 10, 2009

Chair Sid Vihlen, Jr. called for corrections or additions to the minutes. Ms. Blissett made a correction, and Mr. Enright moved to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Fitzpatrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. New Business/Presentations**

Chair Vihlen informed everyone that he made a presentation at the January 6, 2010, City Council meeting outlining the December EDAC meeting. He relayed that the Mayor and Council members were very thankful to the members of the EDAC for their services.

- Discussion Regarding Utilization of Volusia County Economic Development

Chair Vihlen said that the presentation was enlightening because the City does not have to reinvent the wheel, and any leads generated from the Committee or the City of DeBary can be handed over with no out-of-pocket expenses. He also noted that the members of the City Council did not seem to be aware of the extent of services that are available from the Volusia County Economic Development Department, and that the Council seemed very interested in job growth and growth in commerce within the City.

- City Land Use Discussed and Suggested Joint Council & EDAC Meeting

Mr. Atkinson asked if the utilization of EDAC could help with rezoning and other land growth issues. Chair Vihlen responded that it was possible with direction from the Council, and he suggested putting together a workshop with the Committee and Council members. Ms. Blissett said that a joint meeting of both bodies would be appropriate to further discuss this item.

Mr. Atkinson added that it would be a valuable idea to have both bodies spend time together and hear what both sides have to say.

Chair Vihlen entertained a motion to request that the City Manager set a joint meeting with the City Council, as well as a representative from Volusia County Economic Development. He added that the joint meeting would substitute the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of February 11<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Enright moved to approve the motion. Mr. Atkinson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was agreed that the joint meeting would involve the exchange of ideas and allow for open dialogue between the Council and EDAC.

Chair Vihlen asked the Committee to come up with three main goals/objectives to present to the Council for further direction. The Committee suggested adding the following items to the agenda:

- Would the Committee be involved with land use and to what extent?
- Discussion of current vacant buildings and how renovation/upgrades can be encouraged.
- Recommended development/zoning of the light rail corridor and what are the visions?
- What is the possibility for industrial and commerce promotional incentives to attract new growth?

Mr. Yacenda said that the members should also be prepared to ask questions of the Council related to specific topics. He suggested that the Committee utilize direction to enhance current assignments the Committee is working with.

- Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Blissett stated that there is an economic development element within the evaluation and appraisal report (EAR), which is going to be transmitted by the Council to the Department of Community Affairs sometime in February. She handed out a “cheat sheet” with an overview and said the Council wants the Committee’s input as it relates specifically, as well as to develop specific programs or goals stating how they would carry out their objectives.

- Discussion Regarding City Brochure

Chair Vihlen stated that after the last meeting he followed up with the City Manager on behalf of the Committee to clarify the issue of Committee discussion outside of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings. He said that the City Attorney stated that two or more Committee members could not discuss or work together on any business of the Committee outside of the meetings.

Chair Vihlen handed out several example brochures (City of Sanford, Seminole and Volusia Counties). There was further discussion referencing the examples handed out by Chair Vihlen. He suggested that the Committee could meet with Volusia County regarding specifics for the City since most of the groundwork and resources are on hand with Volusia County. He added that the Council is interested in expanding and improving the current brochure.

Ms. Blissett said that the Council was pleased with the progress that had been made thus far on the brochure, and they wanted to incorporate some of the things that the County had already developed and then to enhance them further based upon the components that were previously discussed by the Committee.

Chair Vihlen asked the Committee if it would be beneficial to ask Cheri Mangum, a City resident, who put together the brochure for the Emergency Services for Tropical Storm Fay, to volunteer

some ideas for the brochure. The Committee agreed with the idea and also suggested having the citizens of DeBary submit updated photos in a contest. Ms. Blissett said that she would review the current ideas submitted by the Committee and contact Ms. Mangum on behalf of the Committee.

**V. Public Participation**

None.

**VI. Adjournment**

Chair Vihlen announced the meeting was adjourned at 8:20p.m.

**APPROVED February 11, 2010  
CITY OF DeBARY  
Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Chair Sid Vihlen**